

October 21, 2021
Maine Milk Commission Meeting Minutes
Room 101, Deering Building
Augusta, Maine 04333

Notices for the October 21, 2021 meeting were distributed to Commission members, intervenors and other interested parties on September 23, 2021 and sent to the Secretary of State's Office for posting on September 23, 2021.

Commission Present: Mike Wiers, Stanley Millay, Colon Durrell, Richard Cook and Matt Randall.

Commission Absent: None

Department Officials: None

Staff Present: Tim Drake, Executive Director, Carol Gauthier, Office Associate, II, Joy Bonenfant, Resource Administrator

Legal Counsel: Caleb Elwell

Others Present: Julie Marie Bickford, Maine Dairy Industry Association, John Blake, H.P. Hood, and Mary Frank, member of the public.

Chairman Wiers called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

Agenda Item 1: Minutes: Richard Cook made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 23, 2021 meeting. Stan Millay seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Agenda Item 2: Caleb Elwell, Assistant Attorney General: Nothing to report

Agenda Item 3: Minimum Prices:

Tim Drake reported a prevailing premium of \$1.04/cwt. on Class I for November 2021, Agri-Mark did not respond and DFA reported no changes for November 2021. Federal Order One Class I price for November 2021 is \$21.23, an increase of \$0.80/cwt. He explained that a schedule was prepared using this information plus a producer cost of production adjustment (COPA) of \$1.63/cwt. He stated that this price schedule was for informational purposes and that the Commission was not bound to it, and they should make their pricing determination after hearing testimony.

Chairman Wiers asked for testimony.

Julie Marie Bickford stated that dairy farmers are encouraged to see the price increases across the board but cautioned that farmers are seeing incredible increases in costs due to inflation and supply chain issues and asked that the commission hold current premiums and producer margins at their current levels.

There was no further discussion.

Chairman Wiers asked for a motion.

Stanley Millay made the motion to accept order #11-21 with a Commission premium of \$1.04/cwt. and a COPA of \$1.63/cwt.

Matt Randall seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0.

Agenda Item 4: Maine Monthly Price Survey: Tim Drake stated that he had performed a price survey in all areas of the state as normal. He stated that the Biddeford Wal Mart sheet was missing as the store was being evacuated at the time of his visit. The IAMCA price survey was not available.

Agenda Item 5: Next Scheduled Meetings:

- November 18, 2021, 10:30 A.M., Room 101, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME
- December 23, 2021, 10:30 A.M., Room 101, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME
- January 20, 2022, 10:30 A.M., Room 101, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME
- February 24, 2021, 10:30 A.M., Room 101, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME

The special meeting historically held at the Trade Show was discussed and it was decided they would make a decision in a few weeks on whether to participate at an in-person event or not. Tim Drake will poll Commission members at that time.

Agenda Item 6: Other

- A. **FY 2021 Financial Report**, No discussion.
- B. **Dealer Margins hearing date**, Tim Drake reported that Dave Stonesifer of Herbein & Co. has a scheduling conflict for the November hearing and has asked that we have the hearing directly after the December 23rd meeting, it was agreed that a December hearing date was acceptable.

Agenda Item 7: Executive Session: None

Adjourned: Adjourned; 10:56 a.m. October 21, 2021.
Tim Drake, Maine Milk Commission